

Consumer Program Specialists
Division of Behavioral Health Services
Department of Health and Human Services
P.O. Box 98925
Lincoln, NE 68509-8925

Please Place Application in Envelope to
Division of Behavioral Health Services

MENTAL HEALTH CONSUMER CONFERENCE

September 19-21, 2006
The Leadership Center
Aurora, Nebraska

About The Leadership Center Aurora, Nebraska

The Leadership Center in Aurora, Nebraska offers ...

- Casual Meeting Facilities – jeans, sweaters, & other casual attire are appropriate throughout the workshop. Be sure to bring a swimsuit.
- Buffet Meals in large dining area.
- Accommodations in the Peter Kiewit Lodge.
- Physical Accessibility.
- A wide variety of recreation opportunities to enjoy during conference breaks and in the evening, including...

| | |
|--------------|--------------|
| Heated Pool | Volleyball |
| Whirlpool | Basketball |
| Game Room | Horseshoes |
| Nature Hikes | Table Tennis |

(Swimming Pool, Whirlpool and all activities are at your own risk)

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL MENTAL HEALTH CONSUMER CONFERENCE
“Consumers in Action
Full Speed Ahead”

September 19-21, 2006

Sponsored by
Division of Behavioral Health Services, Nebraska HHS

CONFERENCE GOALS

This year’s conference includes some old and new directions and will focus on the following goals:

- Connecting with consumers statewide
- Creating leaders, advocates and educators
- Acting through personal and community involvement

CONFERENCE CONTENT

It will feature three days of learning, sharing, and networking. Specific highlights will include keynotes by:

- **Karen Kangas, Ed.D.** – Throughout her 19-year career, from her days at Fairfield Hills Hospital in Connecticut to the present Karen has shown that having a disability doesn’t mean living in a “disabled” way. She has taught from her own personal struggles with mental illness that recovery is always within reach despite the temporary setbacks and obstacles of every day living. On a national level, Dr. Kangas has received the Clifford Beers Award in 1993 and on a local level she has received the Roger Sherman Award in 1996. In 1998, Advocacy Unlimited, Inc., a DMHAS-funded advocacy agency, created the Karen Kangas Excellence in Advocacy Award to be given yearly to on outstanding advocate.
- **Lenora Kimball** - Executive Director, The Stepping Stone Drop-In-Association, Clermont NH 2003 to Present. She also collaboration with the national consumer movement leaders and researchers. Including Sherry Mead, Mary Ellen Copeland, Cheryl McNeil, Laurie Curtis, Chris Hansen, Sally Zinman and Dr. Dan Fisher. And adjunct Professor, Saint Anselm College, Manchester, NH, and a member and former chair New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH. Also member Claremont NH area Homeless Coalition and liaison to the public for the Wellness and Recovery Model. She has experience education and coaching local mental health counselors regarding the Trauma Informed Peer Support Model.
- **Joel McCleary** – is a consumer and has returning to HHSS as the new Administrator of the Office of Consumer Affairs. Joel is a native of Missouri, but has lived in Lincoln Nebraska for 17 years. He was educated in both states, receiving a BS Agronomy, and MS Horticulture in Missouri , and later a Masters in Education at the University of Nebraska Lincoln. For over 20 years, Joel has managed symptoms of illness, and the chaos self medication, but he says, “I’ve been able to experience some parts of life that man wouldn’t want, but out of it, I have become grateful and proud of my continued recovery “. Joel’s professional expertise is in helping adult organizations change, but his daily work is always toward a better, more rich recovery.

DATES AND TIMES

| | | |
|---|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Registration and Room Check In | 11:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. | Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2006 |
| Conference Begins | 1:30 p.m. | Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2006 |
| Conference Ends (Hotel checkout 10:00 a.m.) | 1:00 p.m. | Thursday, Sept. 21, 2006 |

APPLICATION AND COST

- There is **NO REGISTRATION FEE FOR CONSUMER PARTICIPATION** at this conference. This conference is made possible through funding by the Division of Behavioral Health Services and the Federal Mental Health Block Grant.
- Application for Participation (see attached form) is required in advance as there are a limited number of conference slots available. **Incomplete applications will not be considered for selection.**

MEALS, LODGING, TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER INFORMATION

- **APPLY NOW! REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Monday, July 17, 2006 5:00 PM**
- ALL MEALS from Tuesday lunch through Thursday lunch will be provided for conference participants.
- OVERNIGHT LODGING is provided for Tuesday and Wednesday nights. Participants will be lodged in 2-person rooms. Roommates will be assigned on a same sex basis, except for married couples. Please sign in at the registration desk with the room mate you preferred to room with, other wise one will be assigned to you. While every effort will be made to accommodate these preferences, limited space will not allow us to honor every request.
- TRANSPORTATION to and from the conference is the responsibility of the participant. We encourage you to talk to other participants and make arrangements with community programs to coordinate transportation. If you need assistance with travel arrangements, call 1-800-836-7660 and talk with Dan or Phyllis.
- TALENT SHOW and DANCE are being planned for everyone. Start planning now for your contribution to the talent show. We guarantee you will have a good time!
- NO SMOKING is permitted in the Leadership Center buildings; all smoking must be outdoors. No Alcohol is permitted in the Leadership Center buildings or on the grounds.
- DRESS is casual throughout the conference including jeans, sweaters, shorts, and the like.
- **FOR MORE INFORMATION or to request accommodation for special needs, call Dan or Phyllis at 1-800-836-7660.**

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING PARTICIPANTS

- All applicants will be screened and selected based on the following criteria:
1. Have not attended a Mental Health Consumer Conference prior to 2006.
 2. Represent a minority or ethnically diverse group.
 3. Selected as a conference guide.
 4. Selected to present at the conference
 5. Least number of times attending a conference with consideration for geographic representation.
 6. Willingness to attend and participate in conference based on information in application.

THIRTEETH ANNIVERSARY CONSUMER CONFERENCE
Consumers in Action Full Speed Ahead”

“September 19-21, 2006”
The Leadership Center, Aurora, Nebraska
Sponsored by the Division of Behavioral Health Services, HHS

APPLICATION FOR PARTICIPATION
Deadline: Monday, July 17, 2006 5:00 PM

Name of Applicant: _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Lodging Preferences: _____ Check all that apply

☐ I need a hotel room near the meeting rooms. _____

Racial/Ethnic Group: (Optional: Will be used to help meet conference goal of a diverse mix of participants.)

☐ Caucasian ☐ Hispanic ☐ African American ☐ Asian or Pacific Islander
☐ American Indian ☐ Alaska Native ☐ Other

Why do you want to attend the conference? (Briefly describe what your goals are for attending the conference. May attach additional sheets [no more than 2 pages total])

How do you plan to follow up with what you learn at the conference?

Please specify any special needs you have, (for example wheel chair, walker or breathing problems) to attend and fully participate in the conference:

Are you a current or former recipient of mental health services? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Are you willing to attend all conference sessions to the best of your ability? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you attended a Consumer Conference in Nebraska before? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If you have attended before, are you willing to be a "Conference Guide", and to mentor other consumers during this conference? ☐ Yes ☐ No

This would involve working with a large group of consumers during the conference. You would be requested to participate in an orientation and training for conference guides. **To be a conference guide you must be able to arrive the night before the conference begins for training.**

Are you willing to participate in the Talent Show at the conference? ☐ Yes ☐ No
If yes, what will you do? _____

Please complete in full and return to: Consumer Liaisons
Division of Behavioral Health Services
P.O. Box 98925
Lincoln, NE 68509-8925

~ Deadline for Applications: Monday, July 17, 2006 5:00 PM ~

Please understand that submitting an application does not guarantee that you will be accepted to attend. All applications will be acknowledged by September 7, 2006.

FOR MORE INFORMATION or to ask questions about the conference, call Phyllis McCaul or Dan Powers at 1-800-836-7660 or (402) 471-7773 or 471-7857.

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO POST AND/OR **COPY** AND DISTRIBUTE

REMOVE ALONG PERFORATION